

## PLATFORM ADOPTED.

### ENTHUSIASM IS DISPLAYED BY DELEGATES AND SPEAKERS.

The Free and Unlimited Coinage of Both Silver and Gold is Demanded at the Ratio of 16 to 1—Opposed to Interest Bearing Bonds.

Chicago, Ill., July 10.—Ten acres of people on the sloping sides of the coliseum yesterday saw the silver-helmeted gladiators in its arena overpower the gold phalanxes and plant the banner of silver upon the ramparts of Democracy. They saw what may prove the disruption of a great political party amid scenes of enthusiasm, such as perhaps never before occurred in a national convention. They saw 20,000 people with imagination inflamed by the burning words of passionate oratory, mazed like wind-swept flags; they heard the awful roar of 20,000 voices burst like a volcano against the reverberating dome overhead; they saw a man carried upon the shoulders of others, intoxicated with enthusiasm, amid tumult and turbulence; they listened to appeals, to threats, to cries for money and finally they watched the jubilee majority seat its victor and the vanquished silversmiths vanish into the daylight.

Following is the platform in full as adopted:

We, the Democrats of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to those great and essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded and which the Democratic party has advocated from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of personal rights, the equality of all persons before the law and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations.

During all these years the Democratic party has resisted the tendency of selfish interests, the centralization of governmental power and steadily maintained the integrity of the dual scheme of government established by the founders of this republic of republics. Under its guidance the great principle of local self-government has found its best expression in the maintenance of the rights of the states and in its recognition of the necessity of confining the general government to the exercise of the powers granted by the constitution of the United States.

Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the federal constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by congress under the constitution made the silver dollar the monetary unit and admitted gold to free coinage at a ratio based upon the silver unit.

We declare that the act of 1873, demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people, has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people.

We are unalterably opposed to the monometallism which has locked fast the property of industrious people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy, and its adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American, and it can be fastened on the United States only by the stifling of that spirit of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776, and won it in the war of the revolution.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract.

We are opposed to the policy and practice of surrendering to the holders of the obligations of the United States the option reserved by law to the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin.

We are opposed to the issuing of interest-bearing bonds of the United States in time of peace, and condemn the trafficking with banking syndicates which, in exchange for bonds and an enormous profit to themselves, supply the Federal treasury with gold to maintain the policy of gold monometallism.

Congress alone has the power to coin and issue money, and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals. We, therefore, demand that the power to issue notes to circulate as money be taken from the national

banks, and that all paper money shall be issued directly by the treasury department and be redeemable in coin and receivable for all debts, public and private.

We hold that the tariff duties should be levied for purposes of revenue, such duties to be so adjusted as to operate equally throughout the country and not discriminate between class or section, and that taxation should be limited by the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered. We denounce as distorting to business the Republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has been twice condemned by the people in national conventions and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industry, proved a profitless breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriched the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producer of the great American staples of access to their natural markets.

Until the money question is settled we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws except such as are necessary to make up the deficit in revenue caused by the adverse decision of the supreme court on the income tax. But for this decision by the supreme court there would be no deficit in the revenues under the law passed by a Democratic congress, that court having under that decision sustained constitutional objections to its enactment which had been overruled by the ablest judges who ever sat on the bench. We declare that it is the duty of congress to use all the constitutional power which remains after that decision or which may come from its reversal by the court as it may hereafter be constituted so that the burdens of taxation may be equally and impartially laid, to the end that wealth may bear its due proportionate expenses of the government.

We hold that the most efficient way to protect American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with it in the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system which depresses the price of their products below the cost of production and thus deprives them of the means of purchasing the products of our home manufactures.

The absorption of wealth by the few, the consolidation of our leading railroad systems and the formation of trusts and pools requires a stricter control by the Federal government of those arteries of commerce. We demand the enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission and such restrictions and guarantees in the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

We denounce the prodigious waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation and the lavish appropriations of the recent Republican congresses, which have kept taxes high while the labor that pays them is unemployed and the products of the people's toil are depressed in price until they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which best befits a Democratic government and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people.

We denounce arbitrary interference by Federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions, and we especially object to government by injunction as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression by which Federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the States and the rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges and executioners, and we approve the bill passed at the last session of the United States Senate and now pending in the House relative to contempt in Federal courts and providing for trials by jury in certain cases of contempt.

No discrimination should be indulged in by the government of the United States in favor of any of its debtors. We approve of the refusal of the Fifty-third Congress to pass the Pacific railroad refunding bill and denounce the effort of the present Republican Congress to enact a similar measure.

We heartily endorse the rule of the present Commissioner of Pensions, that no names shall be arbitrarily dropped from the pension roll, and the fact of enlistment and service should be deemed conclusive evidence against disease or disability before enlistment.

We favor the admission of the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona into the Union as States, and we favor the early admission of all the Territories having the necessary population and resources entitling them to statehood, and while they remain Territories we hold that the officials appointed to administer the government of any Territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona fide residents of the Territory or Dis-

trict in which their duties are to be performed. The Democratic party believes in home rule, and that all public lands of the United States should be applied to the establishment of free homes for American citizens.

We recommend that the Territory of Alaska be granted a delegate in Congress, and that the general land and timber laws of the United States be extended to said Territory.

We extend our sympathy to the people of Cuba in their heroic struggle for liberty and independence.

"We are opposed to life tenure in the public service. We will terms of office, and such an administration of the civil laws as will afford equal opportunities to all citizens of ascertained fitness."

We declare it to be the unwritten law of this Republic, established by custom and usages of 100 years, and sanctioned by the examples of the greatest and wisest of those who formed and have maintained our government, that no man should be eligible for a third term of the Presidential office.

The federal government should care for the improvement of the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the Republic, so as to secure for the interior States easy and cheap transportation to tide water. When any waterway of the Republic is of sufficient importance to demand aid of the government, such aid should be extended upon a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured.

Confiding in the justice of our cause, and the necessity of its success at the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principles and purposes to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all good citizens who approve them, and we desire to have them made effective through legislation for the relief of the people and the restoration of the country's prosperity."

### FAST WRITING.

Some False Impressions as to the Rapidity of Shorthand.

"A great deal of nonsense appears in the newspapers from time to time concerning rapid shorthand writing," said a leading court reporter of New York to a Sun writer. "Instances of stenographers who are able to write at a speed varying all the way from 300 to 400 words a minute are mentioned, apparently merely to call attention to the development of the stenographic art, and the impression is given that such rapid work is so common as to excite no particular comment. As a matter of fact, however, the stenographer in constant practice who is able to keep up a speed of 225 words a minute for any considerable length of time is a remarkably clever man, and it is perfectly safe to say that not one court reporter in a dozen is capable of verbatim reporting at the rate of 200 words a minute."

To understand what the writing of 300 words in a minute means let any one count out that number of words of ordinary matter and then undertake to read it aloud in one minute's time, pronouncing each word distinctly, as it would be necessary to do if a stenographer was taking it down. Estimating an average of two syllables to a word, it will be necessary to enunciate clearly about 600 syllables in one minute, or ten syllables a second. The reporting style of shorthand writing has many expedients for running words together into phrases, so that three or four words are often written quite as rapidly as they can be spoken, and contracted signs are frequently used for the longer words. Still, the writing of 300 words a minute in the briefest style of shorthand would require the formation of considerably over 200 signs—about four every second—and these signs must be accurate enough in form to be readily deciphered by the writer.

Chicago has long claimed to have the fastest shorthand writer in the world and while this individual has given some wonderful exhibitions of speed, it is doubtful if he ever wrote anywhere near 250 words in a single minute that would pass inspection. A few years ago at a public exhibition he took notes of legal testimony read at the rate of about 250 words per minute for five minutes. His notes were so illegible, as a result of the speed at which they were written, that even the most expert stenographers could make nothing out of them, and when compared with the matter dictated it was found that at least a dozen words had been altogether omitted. It is upon such imperfect work as this that the preposterous claims of 300 words or more a minute are based."

A Ten-Thousand-Dollar Watch. Attorney General Hensel, of Pennsylvania, whose home is at Lancaster, sometimes astonishes his friends by showing what he calls his \$10,000 watch. Mr. Hensel and some others at Lancaster subscribed to the stock of a watch company, established there some years ago, and gave to each of the subscribers a gold watch. The factory failed, and the subscribers were left with the watches to show for

No Bloomers for Him.  
Mary had a little goat,  
That was full of whims and humors  
Old bills and paste  
Were quite to his taste,  
But he choked on Mary's bloomers.  
—Washington Times.

### MEDICAL TREATMENT.

If you want the best expert and scientific treatment by the leading physicians and specialists of this country, consult only DR. HATHAWAY & CO., 200 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas. All cases of men and women, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, etc., for men 75¢, for women 50¢, Skin Diseases, etc., for men 75¢, for women 50¢, Best of professional and financial references, a legal guarantee given if necessary.

### SPECIAL WALL PAPERS

FROM 3 Cts. A ROLL UP.  
Write for Samples.  
CHAS. DAUERHEIM WALL PAPER CO.  
214 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.  
AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.

### Do Your Friends Wear Clothes?

AGENTS WANTED.  
Make money easy with our sample outfit, for first class tailoring of all kinds at popular prices. Write for full particulars and special terms to Agents.  
Nathan Wolff & Co.,  
111 W. Seventh St., Cincinnati, O.

### Oldenburger Lodge No. 91.

O. D. H. S.

Meets Second Sunday in each month over Seydler's saloon.

### RATHBONE LODGE

K. of P.

Meets first and third Friday nights in each month at Opera House.

**ARTISTIC HOMES.**  
225 Designs—All for 10c.  
The largest collection of up-to-date designs ever published in any architectural book in the world. 35 designs—20 interiors—15 exteriors. COLONIAL HOMES.  
Any one going to build, or even intending to build, should read this book (the building editions of "Artistic Homes").  
HERBERT C. CHIVERS, Architect, Rooms 223, 224, 225, Winwright Bldg., ST. LOUIS, MO.

## EXCURSION TICKETS

—On Sale via the—  
San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway

—To all—  
EASTERN SUMMER RESORTS  
And Corpus Christi, Rockport, Aransas Pass and Portland.  
Apply to Local Ticket Agent

S. J. YOUNGS.

## City Meat Market,

A. J. HERMS, Prop.

THE BEST MEAT MARKET  
IN THE COUNTY.

SHINER, TEXAS.

## C. A. PANNEWITZ

Photographer.

ARTIST COPIES—\$2.50 PER DOZEN. VIEWS OF HOUSES TAKEN ON SHORT NOTICE.

SHINER, TEXAS.

## PRAIRIE QUEEN LODGE

No. 3950 K. of H.

Meets third Tuesday

## VITEZ LODGE NO. 195

C. S. P. S.

Meets second Sunday in each month at Opera House.

## BLUCHER LODGE NO. 20,

O. D. H. S.

Meets first and third Sunday in each month at Opera House.

## HALF MOON LODGE No. 117

W. O. W.

Meets last Wednesday in each month at Opera House.

## SHINER LODGE NO. 111

A. O. U. W.

Meets second Monday in each month at Opera House.

### CITY DIRECTORY.

Mayor, J. C. Blohm  
Marshal, R. H. Loessin  
ALDERMEN:  
L. Wagener, S. J. Youngs,  
M. E. Walters, L. Trautwein,  
R. L. Eschenburg.